multimedia stream(s), or data describing the multimedia content(s) or stream(s). For example, multimedia contents may include a TV program and accompanying commercials as individual media contents. The TV program and accompanying commercials may be broadcast in the form of a continuous multimedia stream. Further, multimedia data may be forwarded along with the multimedia contents indicating, for example, the title, rating, start time, etc., of the individual multimedia content. Accordingly, the objections should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 3-7, 9-14, and 16-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jain et al. (hereinafter "Jain"), U.S. Patent No. 6,360,234, in view of Ottesen et al. (hereinafter "Ottesen"), U.S. Patent No. 5,930,493, and Shimomura et al. (hereinafter "Shimomura"), U.S. Patent No. 6,526,580. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that the combination of Jain and Ottesen discloses all of the claimed features of independent claims 1 and 10 except it "does not specifically teach that the multimedia data is provided in advance to the index server and 'first provides only the extracted index data to the subscriber index before providing any multimedia contents corresponding to the extracted data." The Examiner then applies the teaching of Shimomura referring to col. 11, lines 26-65.

However, Shimomura discloses a broadband data broadcasting service. The system disclosed by Shimomura receives digital information streams from a plurality of sources, multiplexes the received digital information streams into a single broadcast stream, and then broadcasts the single broadcast stream to a plurality of subscribers, which receive the digital broadcast signal at a receiver. In col. 11, lines 26-65 referred to by the Examiner, Shimomura

merely teaches receiving a digital broadcast signal at a multimedia receiver/server system 700 and storing the multimedia content information 753 in a file system 750 via a caching application 745. A webpage constructing application 760 then continuously examines the contents of a multimedia directory 755, created by the caching application 745 so that the cached multimedia information may be quickly searched and accessed, and the multimedia content 753 to locate information to be incorporated into web pages. The webpage constructing application 760 refers to a user preference file 757 to create a custom multimedia enhanced web page that specifically contains information according to a user's preferences. A web server application 781 then serves the created web page 759 to client systems that request the web page 759 (see col. 11, lines 53-54). Thus, Shimomura fails to disclose or suggest a data server system that provides multimedia streams to an index server system before providing the multimedia streams to subscriber equipment, where the index server system extracts index data for the multimedia streams provided in advance and first provides only the extracted index data to the subscriber equipment before providing any multimedia contents corresponding to the extracted index data. That is, Shimomura does not disclose or suggest an index server system or extracting index data at all. Further, the multimedia receiver/server system 700 disclosed by Shimomura forwards a finalized customized multimedia enhanced webpage to a client system, and thus does not first forward index data only, prior to providing any multimedia contents corresponding to the extracted index data to the client system.

Accordingly, Shimomura fails to overcome the deficiencies of Jain and Ottesen. Thus, the rejection of independent claims 1 and 10 over the combination of Jain, Ottesen, and

Shimomura should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 3-7, 9, 11-14, and 16-24 are allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1 and 10, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 8 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jain, in view of Ottesen and Shimomura, and further in view of Aras et al. (hereinafter "Aras"), U.S. Patent No. 5,872,588. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Dependent claims 8 and 15 are allowable over the combination of Jain, Ottesen, and Shimomura at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claims 1 and 10, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features. Aras fails to overcome the deficiencies of the combination of Jain, Ottesen, and Shimomura, as it is merely cited for teaching an encoder or a decoder. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 8 and 15 over the combination of Jain, Ottesen, Shimomura, and Aras should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Carol L. Druzbick**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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